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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Applicant argues that Li fails to disclose that each of a plurality of multiplexed bits are allocated to one of sixteen slots of the reverse frame, and that each slot comprises a single bit, as recited in claim 1.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees. Li clearly discloses a fundamental power control sub-channel and a supplemental power control sub-channel that are time multiplexed on a reverse pilot channel (abstract; read as each slot of the reverse frame contains a single multiplexed bit). Taking a closer look at figure 3, Li discloses in the reverse pilot channel, the pilot and power control bits are transmitted over 20 ms time intervals or frames. Each frame of the reverse pilot channel comprises sixteen 1.25 ms time intervals (read as one of sixteen slots of the reverse frame) referred to herein as power control sub-frames over which a power control group is transmitted, wherein each pilot control sub-frame comprises four sub-channels and each power control group comprises four bits representing a pilot and power control. In each sub-channel, a single bit may be transmitted (read as each slot comprises a single bit), wherein each bit comprises 384XN symbols and N represents a chip rate. (figure 3; col. 3, lines 12-26)

The recited claim language states "...one of sixteen *slots* of a reverse frame". In figure 3 of Li, frame 1 discloses 16 sub-frames (read as one of sixteen slots). If the Applicant wants to differentiate between a slot of a reverse frame, as indicated in the present application, and a power control sub-frame of the Li reference, then such differences should be made explicit in the claims.

Furthermore, Applicant argues Lin fails to disclose first and second bits indicating reception states of first and second information, respectively, received from a base station on first and second traffic channels, respectively, as recited in claim 1.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees. Lin discloses reception states of first information (read as received frame erasure) received on a first traffic channel and second information (read as erasure EIB) received on a second traffic channel, wherein reception state indicating bits of the first and the second information are reception result indicator bits for power control on a frame basis. (figure 2; col. 3, line 20 to col. 4, line 27)

Lin further discloses that the EIB (read as second information) bit reported by mobile unit 102 to determine if the forward traffic channel message should be resent. The forward traffic channel message should be resent if mobile unit 102 indicates that an erasure has occurred, thereby indicating that the frame was not accurately received. In this manner, the EIB bit transmitted by mobile unit 102 acts like an Ack message for the forward traffic frame transmitted by base station 104. (figure 2; col. 3, lines 20-27)

The user frame is transmitted on a periodic basis, preferably every 20 milliseconds. The mobile unit then transmits an erasure indicator bit to indicate whether the user frame was received. The transcoder then collects (209) reverse link feedback by receiving the erasure indicator bit at the base station. The transcoder then performs (211) a selector function. The selector function selects the highest quality user frame from all available handoff links sent by the mobile unit. The transcoder then determines (213) whether there has been a received frame erasure or an erasure EIB. A received frame erasure (read as first information) indicates that the user frame containing an EIB was not accurately received by the base station. An erasure EIB

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indicates that the mobile unit did not accurately receive the user frame sent by the base station. If the reverse link feedback was not a received frame erasure or an erasure EIB, the transcoder determines (215) whether the EIB is from a message frame. If the EIB is from a message frame, the transcoder determines that the signaling message was accurately received and deletes (217) the stored message and returns to the beginning of processing. (figure 2; col. 3, line 53 to col. 4, line 5)

/Bobbak Safaipour/

Examiner, Art Unit 2618

August 10, 2009

/Matthew D. Anderson/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2618